

Members of the Human Services Committee, my name is Carolyn Bennett and I am testifying in strong opposition to HB 6618, which would pay for abortions for out-of-state residents who cannot afford to pay themselves.

I don't believe it is right to spend state resources to benefit non-state-residents, but I believe even more strongly that before agreeing to this bill, it is important for the committee to understand exactly what our state would be spending money on; you must understand what abortion actually is.

I would like to explain for you a second trimester D&E abortion procedure, which is legal in Connecticut. This is an unembellished, medical description presented in a video I watched by an OB-GYN who performed over 1,200 abortions. I recommend that all committee members watch the entire video, linked in my testimony¹.

As explained in the video, a D&E is usually performed between thirteen and twenty-four weeks in the pregnancy. In the procedure, the abortionist uses an instrument to grasp and pull the developing baby's arms and legs, tearing the limbs from the child's body. He continues to grasp and tear out intestines, spine, heart, and lungs, finally crushing the baby's skull and removing the pieces. The abortionist then collects all of the baby's parts and reassembles them to make sure that all the pieces are there, and then the abortion is complete.

Please understand that when you talk about abortion, this is what it is: the violent taking of an innocent, helpless human life.

To quote Carrie Gordon Earll, a woman who had an abortion as a teenager, "The world is not a better place because of abortion. It's created a world where you're almost expected to abort if you're pregnant at an inopportune time. And it's created a society in which it's easier to push women to have an abortion rather than accommodate them and their needs as mothers. Abortion feels like your only choice if you want to keep your place in school or the workforce. That's not empowerment for women...that's bondage."²

Please oppose HB 6618.

¹ 2nd trimester abortion procedure described by Dr. Anthony Levatino:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgw4X7Dw_3k or additional information on abortion procedures at:
<https://www.abortionprocedures.com>

² <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/pro-life/abortion/when-abortion-is-the-path-of-least-resistance/>